## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA WINSTON SALEM DIVISION

In re:	)	
	)	
JOSEPH EDWARD PANKO, JR. and	)	
SUSAN ADAMS PANKO,	)	Case No: 16-51288
Debtors.	)	

#### **OBJECTION TO PROOFS OF CLAIM**

NOW COME the Debtors, by and through counsel, pursuant to Rule 3001 and Rule 3007 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, respectfully requesting that this Court disallow the proof of claim filed by American Express Bank, FSB (hereinafter "AmEx"). In support hereof, the Debtors show unto the Court the following:

- 1. The Debtors filed a Chapter 13 proceeding on December 13, 2016.
- 2. AmEx filed proofs of claim in this case on February 3, 2017 and February 9 (the "Proofs of Claim"). They are listed on the claims register as Claims #5, and 6.
- 3. For claims based on an Open-End or Revolving Consumer Credit Agreement, like the one at issue, Rule 3001(c)(3)(B) requires that, upon written request by a party in interest, the holder of a claim provide the requesting party a copy of the writing, or, if the writing has been lost or destroyed, a statement of the circumstances of the loss or destruction.
- 4. The Proofs of Claim represent debts based on a written contract. However, no writing is attached thereto.
- 5. On May 22, 2017, the undersigned sent a letter to AmEx demanding that it comply with the requirements of Rule 3001(c)(3)(B) within 30 days, which it failed to do. A copy of the May 22, 2017 letter is attached hereto and incorporated herein as "Exhibit A."
- 6. On June 16, 2017, AmEx, through the law firm of Becket & Lee, LLP, responded to the letter with an email message to which was attached close to 200 pages of credit card statements from two AmEx accounts. These documents did not include a copy of the original writing on which the claim was based or a statement of the circumstances of the loss or destruction of that original writing. In referring to the same, the email stated "A request for the account application was made and will be provided to you, if and when it is available." No account applications have been

provided as of the date of this Objection, and even if it were, it could not be timely under the Rule.

- 7. The Proofs of Claim fails to comply with Rule 3001(c)(3)(B) because they do not include a copy of the writing on which the claim is based, or, if the writing has been lost or destroyed, a statement of the circumstances of the loss or destruction.
- 8. Rule 3001(C)(2)(D)(ii) allows the Court to award reasonable expenses and attorney's fees caused by a creditor's failure to comply with this Rule. The undersigned believes \$500.00 is a reasonable attorney fee that should be remitted to Kristen S. Nardone by AmEx for its failure to comply and the resulting Objection to Proof of Claim that was prosecuted.
- 9. Rule 3007(a) provides for the objection to a proof of claim. The Proofs of Claim should be disallowed because AmEx has failed to produce the writing that would show that the Debtors owed money to AmEx or a predeccessor.
- 10. Rule 3007(d)(6) allows for an omnibus objection to claims when the creditor files proofs of claim that are presented in a form that does not comply with applicable rules. AmEx's Proofs of Claim do not comply with Rule 3001(c)(3)(B). The Debtors are unable to determine the validity of these claims because of this non-compliance.

WHEREFORE, the Debtors pray the Court enter an Order as follows:

- 1. That the proof of claim filed by American Express Bank, FSB, claims numbers 5, and 6, be disallowed; or
- 2. That the proofs of claim filed by American Express Bank, FSB be allowed in an amount determined by the Court; and
- 3. That the Debtors' attorney be awarded attorney fees in the amount of \$500.00 to be paid by American Express Bank, FSB within 30 days of entry of any Order Granting Objection to Proofs of Claim; and
- 4. For such further relief as the Court shall deem just and proper.

This the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017.

/s/ Kristen S. Nardone KRISTEN S. NARDONE Attorney for Debtors NC Bar No. 28063

OF COUNSEL:

Davis Nardone, PC

PO Box 1394 Concord, NC 28026

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that she served the foregoing **OBJECTION TO PROOFS OF CLAIM** electronically, or when unavailable, by depositing a copy of the same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the following parties:

Kathryn L. Bringle Chapter 13 Trustee

William P. Miller Bankruptcy Administrator

Joseph and Susan Panko 5210 Shoreview Drive Concord, NC 28025

American Express Bank, FSB Attn: Kenneth I. Chenault, CEO 4315 South 2700 West Salt Lake City, UT 84184

American Express Bank, FSB c/o CT Corporation System 160 Mine Lake Ct., Ste 200 Raleigh, NC 27615

American Express Bank, FSB c/o Becket and Lee, LLP PO Box 3001 Malvern, PA 19355-0701

Becket & Lee, LLP Attn: Natalie M. McGhee PO Box 3001 Malvern, PA 19355

This the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017.

/s/ Kristen S. Nardone KRISTEN S. NARDONE Attorney for Debtors NC Bar No. 28063 Case 16-51288 Doc 38 Filed 06/26/17 | Page 6 of 6

# DAVIS NARDONE, PC

235 Cabarrus Avenue East P.O. Box 1394

Concord, North Carolina 28026-1394

AMY S. DAVIS, ESQ. KRISTEN NARDONE, ESQ.

lelephone: (704) 784-9440 elecopies: (704) 721-5175 mail: Jessica@davisnardone.com

May 22, 2017

American Express Bank, FSB c/o Becket and Lee, LLP P.O. Box 3001 Malvern, Pa. 19355-0701

Re:

Request for Supporting Information for Claim pursuant to

Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3001

Joseph Edward Jr. & Susan Adams Panko, MDNC Case No. 16-51288

To Whom It May Concern:

You filed at least one proof of claim in the above-referenced bankruptcy proceeding. No supporting written documentation evidence that the debtor(s) owe you any debt was attached thereto.

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 3001(2)(D)(3)(B), this letter shall serve as a demand for a writing specified under Rule 3001(c)(1) within 30 days of the date of this letter. Failure to provide such a writing may result in the objection to your proof of claim and/or the seeking of sanctions against you.

Sincerely,

Kristen S. Nardone

Exhibit A

Post Office Box 1394, Concord, NC 28026 davisnardone.com